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THE MEDIUM

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 3

September 18, 2000

Cha-Ching!



The UTM Bookstore cashes in on the insanely long lines of students scrambling to buy all their books last week. The bookstore line was just one of many lines waiting for students over the first week of classes.

photo/Nuvera Mirza

Walksafer strolls to Student Centre

New location,
communication,
and hours

BY ADAM GILES

Students can stroll securely around campus if they take advantage of the new-look Walksafer programme. Walksafer has relocated and improved communication between walkers and the dispatcher.

The ECSU information booth in the Student Centre is now home base for Walksafer. The Walksafer phone (607-SAFE) will be relocated from Colman House and the info booth employees will now act as the programme's dispatcher.

Registrar Mark Overton, who was part of a Walksafer sub-group that discussed these changes, said Walksafer needed to decrease some administrative tasks so that more people could be out walking.

"Having the dispatcher at the

Student Centre will help reduce the tasks that the two coordinators have to do. Instead of having to use a volunteer to run the dispatch centre we can use the person already working at the information booth – that's one more volunteer that we can use as a walker. And that's a big benefit," he said.

The walkers will also relocate from Colman House. To make the service more accessible, walkers will visit the North and South Buildings when classes end, the pub when it closes, and other areas where crowds are expected to disperse at night. Rather than wait in one room for calls from the dispatcher, the walkers will circle the campus and wait in different places.

"We tried to have Walksafer people readily available at times when we know there's a potential crowd. So when you know classes let out at nine o'clock in the South Building, nine-thirty in the North

Walksafer continued on page 3

Capacity crowd fills Blind Duck for first pub

BY ADAM GILES

Last Thursday, after the strain of four days of class, students attended the Blind Duck Pub for its first pub night of the 2000-2001 school year. Students filled the pub and had a good time.

"I had a great time. Good music and a good time with friends," said fourth-year student Kim Walker.

"It went pretty well. There were a lot of people, but everyone still had room to dance. But something should be done

about the long lines," said Parag Desai, also a fourth-year student.

Manager of the Blind Duck Pub, Maxine Dawkins, said the pub reached capacity at 10 p.m. and, aside from two incidents around 12:30 a.m., the night was a success.

"There were two separate incidents that attracted campus police and peel police, but other than that, things ran smoothly. One gentleman we cut off and someone else that the door staff asked to leave didn't take it very well," she said.

"But we're off to a good start this year and I have to give credit to ECSU for all the hard work they put into promoting the pub."

The Frosh Week pub night and last week's pub night were the first glimpses new students had of the pub. Last year, the first pub night could not be held until the end of September because of construction in the Student Centre. Last Thursday's pub night was the first time UTM students experienced a first pub night on time in its new location in the Student Centre.

"We made a good impression of the pub during Frosh Week and we had a great turnout at first pub. Everyone seemed to have a good time," said ECSU President Preena Chauhan.

"This year the pub was physically open and ready for the first week of school. The pub struggled last year because it was its first year in a new loca-

tion. But a lot of those startup problems have been resolved and I think this will be a better year for the pub."

Dawkins said the pub is trying several strategies to increase turnout at pub nights.

"We are decorating the pub more than we decorated last year. We have the drapes this year that block out the outside light. We're having different DJ's. We're trying everything to see what works," she said.

ECSU Vice President of Finance, Rose Oliveira, said marketing and advertising are crucial to attracting more people to the pub.

"Theme nights work well and, if you give out prizes, more people will come out if they know they can win something. One of the things I want to work on is getting more sponsorship for the pub," she said.

The Student Centre Management Board waived the pub's rent for both last year and this year, and Dawkins said the Blind Duck should be financially healthier this year.

"Once we break out of the red, we'll revisit the rent issue. I think we can have a better year financially and I'm really hoping we will," she said.

The pub will also try to attract underage students to pub nights by allowing them into pub nights with underage pub-entry cards. Students under the age of 19 must sign an agreement that says they



Above: Pub patrons stagger around the Blind Duck.

Right: Some guy shows off his dance moves.

understand the liquor license laws and will not drink. They leave their card at the door and are given a wristband for the night. Before the student leaves, a manager speaks with them and if the student has consumed alcohol, their card is cut.

"This is something we started last year after Christmas and will continue this year," said Dawkins.

"It allows all students to come to pub nights."



photos/Nuvera Mirza

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"A fraction of students voted last year for ECSU and SAC elections. A fraction of students even think about UTM on the weekends."

— Editorial, page 4



PUB OPEN FOR LUNCH & DINNER: CHECK OUT DAILY SPECIALS

BLIND DUCK PUB

UNDERAGE PUB ENTRY CARDS AVAILABLE FROM MANAGEMENT

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 21

HAWAIIAN PUB

COME & WIN A GIVEAWAY FOR
NEWS YEAR'S IN MONTREAL

Registration 2000: Same long lines, different trends

Higher enrolment in humanities and social sciences this year

BY ADAM GILES

Long lines plagued Registrarial Services last week, but according to Registrar Mark Overton, they were shorter than previous years' lineups and students seemed to have an easier time enrolling in courses.

Overton said Registrarial Services saw long lines over the first week of school but, with the help of the Repository of Student Information (ROSI), most of the students in line were there to straighten out unusual situations or to pick up OSAP documents.

"There has been enormous use of the web and some use of the telephone. Most of what we're seeing here is people with special circumstances and people picking up OSAP, which still requires identification," he said.

"Ultimately we're hoping that direct deposit into students' accounts will begin. OSAP has hinted at this."

Registrarial Services used to see longer lines before ROSI was created.

"...we had a couple days when the line stretched halfway across the meeting place but beyond that it's been pretty reasonable"

— Mark Overton



Last week, Registrarial Services experienced their usual beginning-of-the-year extended lineups. UTM students who had 'unusual circumstances' or had to pick up OSAP documents stood in this line that looked like cattle waiting to get slaughtered. Moo! photo/Nuvera Mirza

ed.

"Three years ago there were a couple of times when the lines went from Registrarial Services all the way down to the lecture halls and started around the corner," said Overton.

"This year, we had a couple days when the line stretched halfway across the meeting place but beyond that it's been pretty reasonable. It's a huge improvement over previous years."

Overton said Registrarial Services kept regular office hours last week

because they don't have enough trained staff to extend their hours.

"The kinds of issues that we're dealing with really require people who know the ins and outs of a lot of unusual things. As much as it might be nice to have extra staff, it doesn't speed up the process if they can't help you with your questions," he said.

This year, UTM hopes to enroll 1,393 first-year students and have between 6,200 and 6,400 students in total. Overton said the university, which had 6,240 students enrolled

last year, seems to be close to its target.

"The university wants to meet the target. We don't necessarily want to exceed the target because then we run into problems with space in courses. Last year UTM and St. George Arts and Science were quite a bit over target," he said.

Since UTM appears to be close to their target, Overton said students should have an easier time getting into courses this year.

"In past years we've had trouble getting life sciences students [psy-

chology, biology, forensic science, ecology] seated in some of the labs just because there were too many people. In labs, there are only so many seats. Where we can move a class to a bigger or smaller room – to adjust the sizes – you can't do that with labs: 24 Bunsen burners is 24 Bunsen burners," he said.

"This year it seems to be a lot smoother. Some courses are full but there's not a huge demand for them beyond their capacities."

Overton said Registrarial Services has noticed a new trend this year: higher enrolment in the social sciences and humanities. But the official university count is not until November 1.

"We're seeing stronger enrolment this year than in recent years in the social sciences and some of the humanities. If you looked at last year, there were an increased number of people interested in the sciences. This year, that is not the case, which is pretty interesting," he said.

"Arts and Science has been doing a campaign on the value of a liberal arts degree partially because there have been so many strong messages about the employability of computer scientists and scientists. This counter-message is getting out that you're not losing out by pursuing liberal arts – there is still plenty of value in that."

"This counter-message is getting out that you're not losing out by pursuing liberal arts"
— Mark Overton

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Forsensic Science mentorship sees highest enrolment ever

28 students accepted into coveted FSC481

BY LYNDA KIM

UTM is known for something other than being the U of T College hidden in the forest: The Forensic Science programme. The programme is well known for its fierce competition for admission across North America, the limited number of students admitted into the course each year, and the demand for a consistently high academic standing. This year, the Forensic Science mentorship course has seen the highest enrollment in its history.

Students who are accepted into the programme and who are able to sustain the strain of the programme have the opportunity to enter a fourth-year mentorship course where they are placed into the field of forensic science. This year, 28 students are enrolled in the Forensic Science mentorship course (FSC481). Professor

"The students in the program are of very high academic standing. They come from across Canada to study here"
— Raymond Cummins

Raymond Cummins said this is the largest class in the five-year history of the program.

"This is the most students we've

had and we anticipate significant growth in the program in the very near future," he said.

Enrollment in a forensics major at Erindale is limited to students who also take a major in an approved programme. Anthropology, Biology, or Chemistry are three possibilities.

"...thesis paper presentations have been of such high quality that they have marked highlights of the academic year at this college"
— Raymond Cummins

The forensics major (along with the other major) leads to an honours B.Sc. degree.

"The students in the program are of very high academic standing. They come from across Canada to study here," said Cummins.

Cummins said the placements for the Forensic Science mentorship course allow students to gain practical work experience during the school year.

"Students work for 200 hours or at least one full day per week during two terms," he said.

Some of the mentorship placements this year included: the Office of the Chief Forensic Pathologist for Ontario; the Office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario; MAXXAM Human DNA Lab in Guelph; and the Forensic Identification Labs at Toronto Police Service, Halton Regional Police, and Peel Regional Police.

"Students are expected to gain

plenty of 'at the bench,' or 'on the floor' experience during the mentorship course," Cummins said.

At the end of the year, a mentorship term research project and written report are expected from each student.

"For the last four years the thesis paper presentations have been of such high quality that they have marked highlights of the academic year at this college," said Cummins.

An oral report is also created. Cummins said the oral report is presented, "...to an audience composed of the forensic science class, all the faculty in the Forensic Science program, and invited guests from forensic labs from across Canada."

According to Cummins, grading is not an easy task in this course.

"The student's grade is assigned by the course director based on displayed initiative and problem

"Students are expected to gain plenty of 'at the bench,' or 'on the floor' experience during the mentorship course"
— Raymond Cummins

solving ability, the quality of the work completed on site, the scope, depth and quality of the written report, and the oral presentation," he said.

Students cannot depend on just their scientific and logical knowledge to succeed, they must be well rounded in their written, social, and thinking skills.

With files from Tracy Moniz

Biotechnology gets \$4.7 million

BY TRACY MONIZ

UTM will launch a new Master of Biotechnology Program in May 2001. Its objective: "to equip talented science and applied science graduates for a career in the biotechnology or pharmaceutical industries."

UTM's Centre for Applied Biosciences and Biotechnology (CABB) received nearly \$2.4 million from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI), a donation that is expected to be matched by the Ontario government, bringing the total grant to approximately \$4.7 million. UTM Chemistry professor Ulrich Krull, AstraZeneca Chair in Biotechnology and project leader for UTM's new Biotech Centre, is also at the head of the Masters degree programme.

"The main thrust of the grant is to provide researchers at UTM with the major pieces of equipment and lab facilities to carry out the research in the latest technological areas," said UTM botany professor Barry Saville. According to Saville, a major portion of the grant is to build a two-story extension off the South Building, complete with a research lab. Saville is optimistic about the project: "In all this is an incredibly exciting achievement for the researchers at the University of Toronto at Mississauga that will enable research fields not previously possible."

For Saville this means being able to move into an area of functional genomics in his work with plant pathogens. "There are some exciting interactions that will be based around the detection of multiple DNA sequences. Without this infrastruc-

ture, I would not be as likely to succeed in this area," he said.

The Masters programme takes an interdisciplinary approach — a merging of management, chemistry, and biology. The graduate departments of Botany, Zoology and Chemistry will be academically responsible for executing the programme, which promises to combine the talents of various faculty members across the campus. "From my perspective, the major interdisciplinary interaction will be between chemistry and biology," said Saville.

The program has been well received locally and provincially. The initiative received strong support and financial assistance from the Ontario government, from the University itself, and from Mississauga's biotechnology companies. "Biotechnology is a new, vibrant discipline. There are many biotech companies starting up in Mississauga now, and there aren't very many programs that train people in biotechnology. These companies tend to hire university graduates in science and train them themselves," said biology graduate student Martin Hycza. Graduate students will be placed within Mississauga Biotech companies for practical training during the internship portion of the program.

Students will have the option of full-time or part-time study. The full-time program requires 24 months to complete eight full graduate courses. The Master of Biotechnology will be a non-thesis graduate degree combining lecture courses in the fall term, followed by a four-month internship placement in the second term of both years of study.

Correction:

Last week's story "Piskalnetis splits" contained an incorrect statement. The elimination of men's ball hockey in 1998-1999 and the dismantling of ECARA last year were changes recommended by the DAR report, not by the former Director of Athletics, Mary Ann Piskalnetis.

Walksafer on the move

Continued from front

Building, and when you know what's going on in the pub, you can hit those locations at those times," said Overton.

Head Coordinator of Walksafer, Julie Snow, said this move will make the programme more visible to students.

"We're moving in a better direction where we can serve more students. Since our dispatcher is now in the Student Centre and our walkers have no fixed location, we are more visible," she said.

Snow said that although she wants the walkers to move around as much as possible, she doesn't expect them to walk in continuous circles around campus.

"Obviously we want the walkers to make be out there making themselves as visible as possible, but there will be times when they'll sit and wait in the Meeting Place or in the Student Centre between calls," she said.

Manager of Police Services, Len Paris, said that calls will be forwarded to campus police when info booth employees are unavailable and that Walksafer should have more users this year because of increased visibility.

"Walkers will sign out their jackets and cell phones from campus police and then physically check in with

the dispatcher at the Student Centre. Calls will be forwarded to campus police if the dispatcher is either done for the night or goes for a break," said Paris.

"I think being seen more in the South Building and around campus should up the numbers this year. Students should feel a bigger sense of safety just by seeing people with Walksafer jackets."

In addition to the relocation to the Student Centre, walkers will now carry cellular phones instead of the radios they used to carry.

"Last year we had problems with radios that we were using for communication between the dispatcher and the walkers. We're going to try cell phones. This will be surprisingly less expensive," said Overton.

Snow said Walksafer might not have to cover the cost of the cell phones for the entire year.

"We may be able to sublet the phones in the summertime. It probably wouldn't be a full-year cost for us. The radios we used just didn't suit our needs. Even campus police had trouble with their radios in the basement because of the concrete," she said.

Walksafer, which receives funding from ECSU, SAC, and Quality Service to Students (QSS), made two schedule changes from last year: The service only runs until midnight Monday to Wednesday instead of 1 a.m. and Friday service was cut altogether because of a lack of calls.

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EDITORIAL

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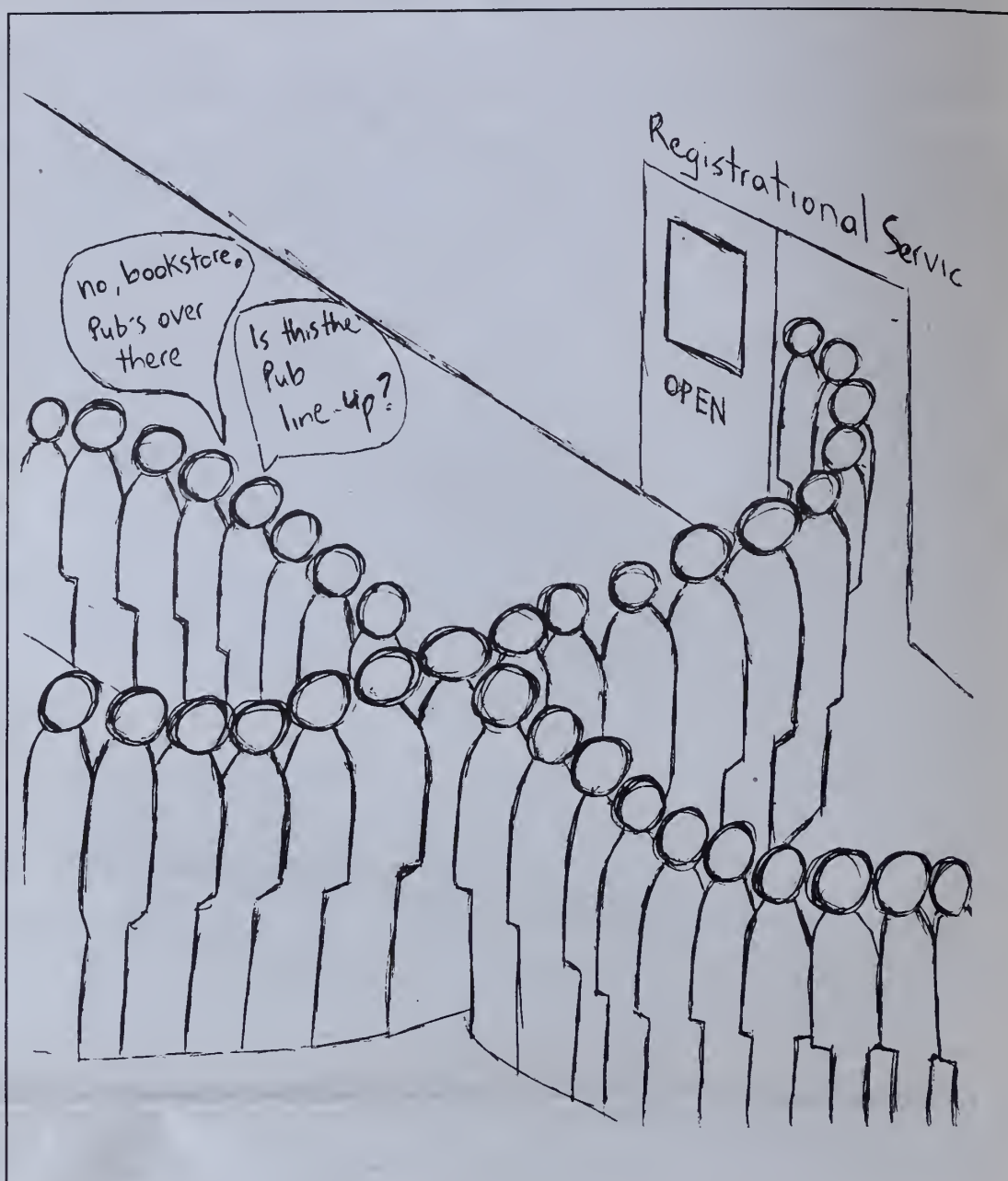
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Editorial

So first pub has come and gone. This editorial could be about the long line-ups, about the numerous fights that erupted, about the flying CDs that pegged pub patrons in the face. But what's more important is that last Thursday marked the first "first pub" that a new generation of UTM students attended. This frosh group never knew the old portable pub, and never knew the delays in last year's first pub – and the lighting and extra space that affected the pub for the rest of the year. This group went to pub on Thursday, danced, screamed, drank, and experienced what pub was two years ago – the one night that the UTM community left homework, left parents, and came together to have a good time. Last pub was the closest the Blind Duck got to the glory days of that portable pub. When things looked bleak last year with the Blind Duck's poor finances, low student turn-out, and nasty deep-fried cheese sticks, the efforts of Pub Manager Maxine Dawkins, students, and ECSU finally paid off. A lot of students went to pub last Thursday expecting a huge crowd, bad music, and poor lighting to ruin the evening. But the music played to many interests, the crowd never left the dance floor, and every inch of the pub was filled with satisfied students.

The success of pub night is a victory for the Blind Duck, and more importantly, for UTM school spirit. For the last few years, the apathy of UTM students has plagued the campus. A fraction of students voted last year for ECSU and SAC elections. A fraction of students even think about UTM on the weekends. With the success of pub night, hopefully students and event programmers on campus will get the idea – the potential for student involvement and activity on campus is limitless.



Principal Writes a Wrong

Dear Editor,

While I encourage and support student involvement and feedback on issues directly related to student services. I am also dedicated to the idea that the facts surrounding any issue are dealt with correctly. The recent Medium article on the

departure of Mary Ann Piskalnetis as Director of the Centre for Physical Education calls for clarification. I offer the following:

As Principal, I asked for an external review of the Department of Athletics (a common practice at UT used to obtain expert opinions on programs and services). The review process began in the Spring of 1998 (established before Ms. Piskalnetis arrived). Of the 10 recommendations made, three are central to the article in The Medium:

That's men's ball hockey be suspended for one year, during which time a task force develop a new model.

That a new governance structure for ECARA be developed.

That a strategy be developed to resolve revenue inequities.

The review called for changes which we knew would be controversial, but were necessary for the improvement of services to students and the UTM community. I endorsed them very strongly. Ms.

Piskalnetis had the difficult task of implementing these changes authorized by the College Council and me. Student dissatisfaction with the transition unfortunately became focused on Ms. Piskalnetis and not on the changes that she had been charged by the College to implement.

It is my responsibility, as Principal, to communicate the facts and to dispel any confusion surrounding the changes in the Centre for Physical Education. Along with the members of that department, I shall continue to work to bring about the very best level of services to the UTM community. I regret any confusion that still persists around these issues, and hope that in the future, we will confine the discussion to the issues and not the people involved.

Sincerely,

Robert H. McNutt
Principal

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor will be edited for spelling, grammar, style, and coherence. Letters will not exceed 500 words in print. Letters that incite hatred, violence or letters that are racist, homophobic, sexist, or libelous, will not

be published. Letters reflect opinions of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor-in-chief, other editors and staff, or The Medium's Board of Directors. In other words, just because we print it doesn't necessarily mean we agree with it. Submission does not guarantee publication. Submission of a letter to The Medium presumes the writer has read, and agrees with, this Policy. Please submit letters on disk.

THE MEDIUM

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3:30pm Adam's listening to porno music. Sorry for the spelling mistake again S.M. Krause: It won't happen again Barb quit on the phone today, nonchalantly oh well Tracy G. thanks for the newswires Jen's threatening to pee everywhere stop it Jen 6:30pm, Sadun still doesn't want to spin tunes with us Don't worry, Guy, your secret's safe with us J Don't worry Tracy, you're learning And thanks for giving us your Saturday night 9:35pm Sorry Amie and Stef, I love your opinions, I just needed to use your name to make a point. I wonder what the world is doing this evening 12:45 a.m. dammit this sucks It's because I forgot the paper soundtrack too bad for The Medium, Bro thanks for sticking around Adam good night all

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OPINION

The Adventures of Billy: Part II

Billy couldn't sleep the night before – his excitement for the first day of school kept him up all night. What would classes be like? Would students would run around, eager to absorb what their professor's told them? What extra-curricular activities would call to him? What adventures would await him?

He drove south on Mississauga Road towards the UTM campus.

Lunch with Ali

By S.M. Kranjec

This Friday is my cousin Alexandra's 13th birthday. For the last two years, since I started attending UTM, I've always made time on her birthday to have lunch with her.

The first year I started this ritual, I bought an Assorted sub from Mr. Sub. Lettuce, tomatoes and pickles on brown.

The second year I bought a bagel and coffee from Tim Horton's. Butter and jam on whole wheat. French vanilla – no sugar.

While the menu for the past couple of years hasn't been particularly fabulous, the location has been more than special. Every year, Ali and I have lunch outdoors. I sit on the grass and the sun shines down. There are always birds in the nearby trees calling to each other, preparing to make the flight south. Beneath the breeze, softly, I talk to Ali and tell her about my day, about my month, about my year. I talk to her throughout the rest of the year, but on her birthday, it's nice to recap and look back and see what I've accomplished.

I tell her about all of my hopes for the new year of school, my goals, what I hope to see and do. I ask her for advice.

I listen to her answers. They are always great. She always makes me feel like I can do anything. She makes me cry every year. And then she makes me laugh.

As I pack up the remains of my lunch I say a little prayer for her and promise to come back soon. I stare down at the words and mark her place on earth and speak of her new place, somewhere else:

Alexandra Nicole Bajt
September 22, 1987 -
June 10, 1993
Love you forever.

Happy Birthday Ali. Maybe this year we'll have pizza.

He whistled to the song on his radio – Bruce Hornsby's "The Show Goes On."

He didn't see the speed bump until it was too late. The car rose 2 feet into the air and sparks erupted from the pavement as the car landed, leaving Billy's muffler and rear bumper on the road.

He slammed on the brakes as cars came to a full stop.

"Shit!" said Billy. Traffic would hold him back and he'd be late for his first class.

Traffic began to move again, and he slammed on the accelerator.

He turned left into the North entrance of the campus and sped towards the parking lot.

He didn't see the speed bump until it was too late. The car rose 2 feet into the air and sparks erupted

from the pavement as the car landed, leaving Billy's muffler and rear bumper on the road.

Billy stopped the car and jumped out to see the damage.

"Holy shit!" he yelled. His father gave him the car for the week to drive to school. He'd begged for it, and now destroyed it. He knew the suspension couldn't survive that bump. He watched as other cars demolished his bumper and the muffler on the road.

He rubbed his eyes and decided to take everything in.

He sat on the grass beside the car. He took a deep breath, and exhaled. What would his father say?

He took another deep breath, and exhaled.

Then he sneezed. And sneezed again. He looked at his hands. They were turning bright red. Bumps started forming on his skin. He looked around in a daze, and saw the pesticide sign on the lawn.

Ten years earlier, Billy had suffered a severe allergic reaction to his father's lawn pesticides, and

He looked at his hands. They were turning bright red. Bumps started forming on his skin. He looked around in a daze, and saw the pesticide sign on the lawn.

ended up spending 14 hours in the Emergency room at Credit Valley Hospital.

He gasped for air, and dove into his car.

Billy emerged from Health Services two hours later, having thrown up his mother's back-to-school breakfast of pancakes, french toast, and oatmeal. He felt like crap, and had missed his first class. What a way to start the school year. All he wanted was to fit in, make some friends, do well in school, and get involved.

But Billy was a big boy, and could take care of himself. He went to the registrar's office to pick up his OSAP documents...and waited in line for 4 hours.

Billy felt angry. He looked at his watch. 3:00 p.m. He had enough time to buy books and get some exercise before his evening class. He went to the bookstore to buy his Psychology text...and waited line for 1 hour.

Billy felt his blood boil. He hadn't met a soul in school yet, even had a class. He wanted to punch something.

This was a perfect time to work out, he thought. He'd never worked out before, but the \$90 dollar incidental fee, and his increasing agitation, were good incentives.

He walked toward the stair well to go downstairs. He saw the sign on the stairwell.

"Closed for renovations."

Billy cried.

Doesn't anybody other than S.M. Kranjec have an opinion?

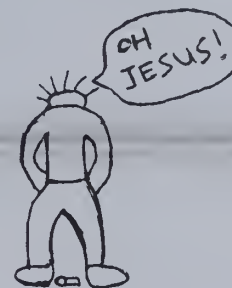
I am of the school of thought that there are others.

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THE PLANS

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About the ARC

By TRACY MONIZ

What is the ARC?

The Annual Rating of Courses (ARC) booklet published by the Erindale College Student Union (ECSU) is intended as a guide for students to use when selecting courses. It is based on the course evaluation surveys students fill out at the end of each course. It summarizes how students rated each course with respect to workload and difficulty of course material relative to other courses, the professor's presentation of the course material, the professor's accessibility and teaching ability, and the value of the overall learning experience.

A Question of Confidentiality?

Not all courses are included in the ARC. Not all professors are represent-

"Students may use the surveys as a means of rewarding or punishing their professors"
- Slavka Murray

ed in the ARC. "We ask professors to do the surveys. We encourage it, but professors don't have to. There's a two-week window to get the surveys done. Professors often have tests going on at the time. If a member forgets and the two-week time period is finished, there's not much we can do," said Slavka Murray, assistant to the dean of social sciences.

Professors must also sign a blanket release form authorizing the information on the surveys to be released for public viewing. "Professors have the right to consent to it or not," said Murray. The dean of each division - science, social sciences and humanities - as well as Principal McNutt receive a complete set of the surveys. A modified set that excludes the surveys of those professors who have not consented to releasing their results is distributed to the library, the department chairs, and ECSU. It is from this modified set that the ARC is compiled.

Who Cares?

What does it mean when a professor receives negative feedback from students? What does it mean when a professor receives positive feedback from students? What happens to the results?

"It's a very sensitive subject. Professors do want to do well on the surveys. It's a performance evaluation, and student input is very important. All my colleagues read what students have to say and look forward to it. They come into my office asking if the surveys are in yet," said Dean of Humanities, Michael Lettieri.

The results from the course and professor evaluations influence professorial assessments at the close of the academic year, and have a bearing on contract renewal and tenure. "When it comes to promotions, you can't be average in teaching. You have to be exceptional," said Lettieri. The criterion by which a professor's academic performance is assessed on a yearly basis includes teaching, school activities and service to the university. On a ten-point scale, four points are allocated to teaching, four points to school activities, and two points are based on service to the university.

Accuracy or Bias?

How accurate a reflection of a course are the student evaluations? Do the student evaluations accurately reflect a professor's performance in the classroom? "Sometimes," said Murray. "The comments are especial-

"From my personal experience, I think that students are honest and sincere about what they do. I personally don't think it's a popularity contest"
- Associate Dean Michael Lettieri

ly helpful. Negative comments are important too. They tell professors how they can improve their teaching. There's no other system in place for

evaluating courses. Students may also use the survey as a means of rewarding or punishing their professors. Everything is biased," she said.

Lettieri views the same question from a different perspective: "Is it a popularity contest, or can students assess what's pedagogically valid and what's pedagogically invalid? From

"I know of people who have used it, and I've been told about it from others, so I'm familiar with it, but I don't even know where to get it"
- Mark Kang

my personal experience, I think that students are honest and sincere about what they do. I personally don't think it's a popularity contest," said Lettieri.

Professors do not receive feedback about the surveys until final marks have been submitted. "We're sensitive on timing. We don't want to prejudice marking results. That's not ethical," said Murray.

Too Little, Too Late

The ARC, designed to help students choose their courses, did not become available to students prior to the first registration period. It became available one week later. This has been common practice over the years. "It was a really tight fit to compile it. We didn't get the survey results until the end of June. We only had four to five full working days to get it done," said ECSU President Preena Chauhan. Chauhan would like to see the ARC completed a couple of weeks earlier - prior to the first stream of registration. "The release forms sometimes aren't back yet, the data isn't compiled, or sometimes professors go away in April and don't submit the release forms until they return in mid-summer."

Finding the ARC: The Search Is On

"I know of people who have used it. I've been told about it from others, so I'm familiar with it, but I don't even know where to get it," said fourth year student Mark Kang. "I've never heard of it," said Zehra Haffajee, a second year student. According to Chauhan, a banner advertising the ARC was posted in the South Building, in addition to posters placed on the ECSU bulletin boards. "We made a collective effort because it was around the time that Kelly left." Kelly Gilbert, ECSU's former advertising director, resigned from her position over the summer. In an attempt to increase awareness about the ARC, a copy was also placed in each frosh kit. "The ARC is something that needs to be highly publicized. We felt the need because if frosh didn't get it this year, they'd never know about it and lose out in the coming years. Now they can have a look out for the next three years. I feel I only know about the ARC because I'm involved in ECSU," said Chauhan.

Having the ARC online as opposed to in print would increase its accessibility and significantly cut costs. This year ECSU's budget for the ARC was \$1600.00 - down from that of previous years. Chauhan said that ECSU saved a significant amount of money on the ARC this year by limiting the number of copies printed to less than one thousand and by focusing less on the aesthetics of the handbook. "We always had so many copies left over in previ-

ous years," she said.

The ARC is not available on ECSU's website. "I haven't seen the Erindale one, but I download the downtown one all the time," said fourth year UTM student Rickesh Sood, who takes courses on both campuses. The Arts and Science Student Union (ASSU) at the St. George campus publishes the Anti-Calendar - their version of ECSU's ARC.

The Anti-Calendar can be found on ASSU's website. According to Terry Buckland, executive assistant and editor of the Anti-Calendar, having the Anti-Calendar online makes it accessible to a larger group of students. "We get requests for the anti-calendar from students worldwide who are coming here to study," he said. "We discussed it, and have hired a webmaster, but our website is still under construction. That's definitely something I'd like to see for next year. The data is on disk, so it could easily be done," said Chauhan. Fred Amirhoushmand, ECSU's special projects director, who was primarily responsible for putting the ARC together, was unavailable for

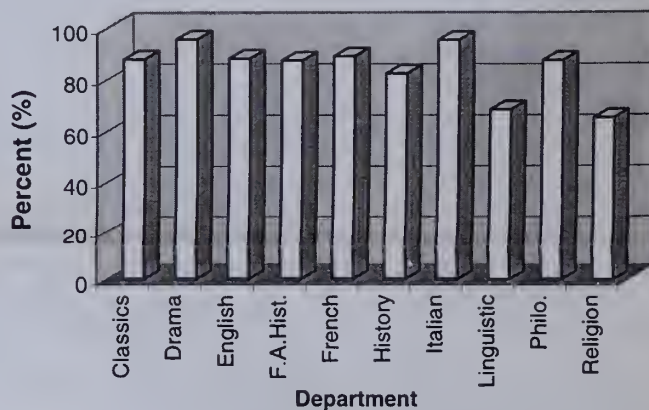
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Translating the ARC

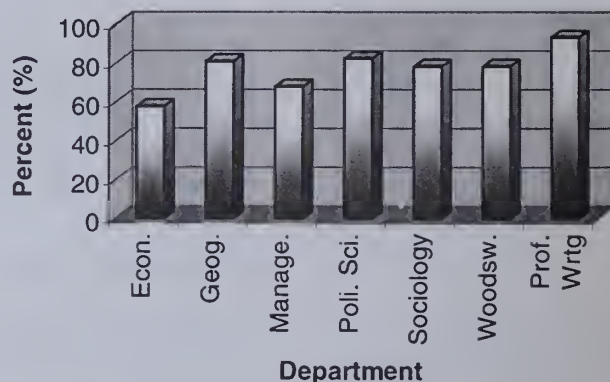
One question on the survey asks: "Considering your experience with this course and disregarding your need for it to meet program or degree requirements, would you still have taken this course?" If student ratings in the ARC speak true, it would appear that Humanities students are the most satisfied students on campus. Of the courses listed in the ARC, Italian courses have the highest retake rankings across the board - ranging from 75 per cent to 100 per cent, and averaging a retake value of 95 per cent. Oppositely, math courses tend toward lower retake scores - ranging from 20 per cent to 91 per cent, with an average retake value of 57 per cent. An overview of the courses represented in the ARC shows the Humanities to have the highest retake rankings, followed by the Social Sciences, and then the Sciences.

A copy of the ARC can be picked up in the ECSU office.

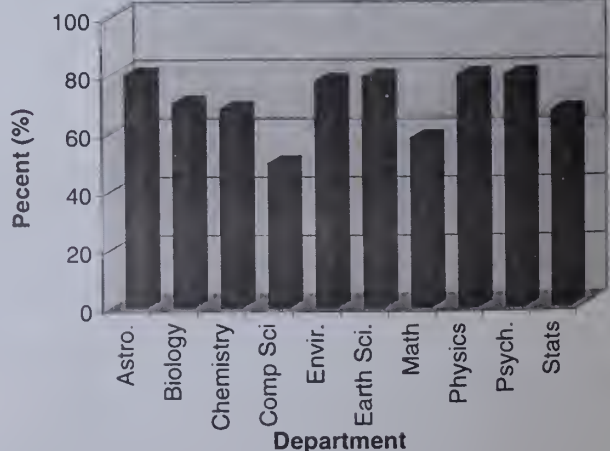
Retake Ratings: Humanities



Retake Ratings: Social Sciences



Retake Ratings: Science



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Investigating Racism...

Dr. Chun returns to U of T

BY TRACY MONIZ

Dr. Kin Yip Chun is back.

After six years of conflict over allegations of racial discrimination against the University of Toronto, Dr. Chun and the university have reached a settlement that allows Chun to resume his research and teaching in U of T's physics department. The agreement followed the decision by the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC) not to refer Chun's case to a board of inquiry.

"The university is pleased that we have found a resolution to a long-standing and difficult situation for the University of Toronto, the physics department, and Dr. Chun. Throughout this dispute we were committed to finding a solution that is consistent with our policies on academic appointments and would enable Dr. Chun to resume his research. We welcome him back to the university community," said U of T President

"Discrimination is antiethical to the values, policies and procedures of U of T"
- University of Toronto

Birgeneau about the settlement.

Chun filed a \$1-million civil suit against the university in 1995 alleging "discrimination in employment based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin and ethnic origin." Chun competed for four different tenure-stream positions between 1987 and 1992 - the 1992 competition for a tenure-stream position in UTM's physics department. Chun was unsuccessful in all attempts, and claims to have lost out to candidates less qualified

than himself. Chun claims he was the victim of "direct and systemic discrimination."

In response to the OHRC's report on Chun's complaint, the university denied Chun's allegations of discrimination: "Discrimination is antithetical to the values, policies and procedures of U of T." The university denied that Chun was "dismissed or

"... subject to unfair procedures..."

"... exploited and treated unfairly in his contractual relations with the University..."

"... penalized for his good performance..."

- Canadian Association of University Teachers

denied a tenure-stream position for reasons prohibited by the Human Rights Code."

The university launched its own investigation in 1994. Professor Cecil Yip, a tenured full professor and also a Chinese-Canadian, conducted the investigation, which concluded with Yip finding no evidence of systemic discrimination by the university toward Chun. Yip did, however, determine the university to be guilty of "institutional unfairness" in the Chun case. While a Research Associate's position normally entails shared research responsibilities and no teaching, Chun - a Research Associate - often worked independently and taught upper level courses. In short, Chun assumed responsibilities rarely performed by a Research Associate.

The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) confirmed Yip's findings. The CAUT concluded that Chun had been:

"exploited and treated unfairly in his contractual relations with the University," "subject to unfair procedures during at least two of the competitions for tenure-track positions in his Department," and given that Dr. Chun's performance exceeded that of a Research Associate, he was, in effect, "penalized for his good performance." The CAUT however, did not find sufficient evidence to determine whether or not Chun had been a victim of discrimination.

An investigation by the Ontario Human Rights Commission in February found the university guilty of systemic racism. The report stated that "race, colour, ancestry, place of origin and ethnic origin were factors in his (Chun's) failure to obtain an academic appointment." The university claimed the OHRC report to be "riddled with factual errors," "incomplete," and "misleading."

Further review of Chun's case resulted in a decision by the OHRC not to refer it to a board of inquiry. Since reaching the settlement, Chun has returned to U of T's physics

"... a sweet victory..."

"... a forward-looking gesture by the university..."

- Dr. Kin Yip Chun

department as a full-time associate professor (non-tenure stream) and research scientist. After relying on social assistance for six years, Chun will receive, as part of the settlement, a \$260 000 research start-up fund,



Dr. Kin-Yip Chun has returned to the U of T after a six-year racial discrimination suit against the university.

\$100 000 in salary compensation, and \$150 000 to compensate for legal fees.

Chun said that he is looking forward to resuming his research at the U of T. In an article in The Toronto Star, Chun calls the settlement a "sweet victory" - "a forward-looking gesture by the university."

Celebrating Ethnicity...

"Heritage"

BY AMANDA CHIA-MING HU

Last year I made a decision that I thought would symbolize who I am and how I wanted the world to see me. I made the decision to include my Chinese name in my official school transcript. The reactions I received from others surprised me.

First, when my new name appeared on the honour roll, it was spelled wrong. This occurred despite the fact that I had brought in my birth certificate to prove that my name was what I claimed it to be. Second, as I walked past the honour roll display, I overheard some

students snicker as they tried, mockingly, to pronounce my name. Third, a few of my friends ques-

tioned, "Why did they add *that* to your name?" or commented, "Whoa, I don't remember your name being that complicated." I felt offended.

Growing up as a Chinese Canadian, I have always considered myself a blend of both cultures and both traditions. Not one side, my heritage or my citizenship, has ever taken precedence over the other. People have often asked me, "Do you consider yourself Canadian or Chinese?" "Do you think in English or in Chinese?" or "Are your friends Canadian or Chinese?" I reply, "Why must I choose between the two? Can I not choose both?"

Sometimes I feel like I do not belong to either side. On the Canadian side, no one is aware of prejudice against Asians. Our society is much more concerned with African-Canadian, Native and French-Canadian affairs. Ironically, I am strapped with positive stereo-

types: Asians are good at math, hard working, rich and drive BMW's. When I went for my driving test, the attendant asked if I wanted to write the test in another language. He looked surprised when I responded in fluent English. I am forced to celebrate European holidays like Christmas and Easter, yet when it is time for Chinese New Year, I must study for exams. In a country where democracy is the form of government, majority rules. Unfortunately, I am the minority.

On the Chinese side, there are jokes about being

raised in Canada. I am a "banana" because I am yellow on the outside, but white on the inside. I am a

"CBC" - a Canadian-born-Chinese - and my American counterparts are "ABC's" - American-born-Chinese. I have been irreparably shaped by Canadian society and my ideas and outlook on life are all Canadian. My Chinese relatives speak to me in English instead of Chinese, waiters in Chinese restaurants often give me a fork instead of a pair of chopsticks, and merchants in Chinatown raise prices just because I speak Chinese with a foreign accent.

Canada is built on multiculturalism. Our country is known to be more racially tolerant and ethnically enriched than our southern neighbour. Traditions and cultures from around the world are encouraged and prou-

dly celebrated with festivals, parades and seasonal events. That is partly why people from foreign countries chose to live in Canada.

There will always be people in society who will make a sly comment or a rude remark. Sometimes, you have to be mature enough to ignore it. I am proud to be a Chinese Canadian. I am proud to be a "banana," a "CBC" or whatever else I may be called. Finally, I am proud to be named Amanda Chia-Ming Hu.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The Toronto International Film Festival in review



Jeff Bridges strikes a presidential pose in *The Contender*. The film opens for wide release in theatres on October 13.

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Hollywood is obsessed with exposing the dark underbelly of American politics – just look at this year's hit Emmy-winning production, *West Wing*, which invites viewers inside a fictional White House on a weekly basis to watch the shit hit the fan. The American government goes astray in *The Contender* when the Vice-President dies and the President (Jeff Bridges) chooses an unexpected candidate to fill the position. The decision is then ratified by a biased congressional committee, who clearly seeks to tear down vice-president elect Laine Hanson (Joan Allen). The daughter of a prominent governor, Hanson seems positively squeaky-clean and free from controversy, until congressional committee head Senator

Runyon (Gary Oldman) conveniently uncovers rumours of Hanson's promiscuous past.

Part thriller, part political expose, *The Contender* is one of the best-written political dramas to arrive in a long time – snappy, clever dialogue maintains a quick pace, keeping the audience riveted and performances focused. Bridges, Allen and Oldman all deliver memorable, charming, and remarkably human performances in their roles – Oldman undoubtedly produced this picture because he wanted to play the character of Senator Runyon and pull off a performance akin to Sean Penn in *Carlito's Way*. Deplorably, the film's cop-out ending is far too 'easy' for the film's complex dialogue and characters, and I felt let down by the film's closing credits. But that won't stop this film from becoming a box office success, or getting nominated for a few Oscars next year.

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

If you loved to dance as a child, or if you enjoy films with a quirky British flavour, then you'll love Stephen Daldry's feature debut *Billy Elliot* – the best film to come out of the United Kingdom since the *Full Monty*. The film tells the story of a young boy coming of age in a north England mining town during the conservative Thatcher administration of the mid-1980s. Billy Elliott's father and brother expect Billy (Jamie Bell) to take on a lot of responsibility after his mother's death. As a result, Billy is pushed into the world of amateur boxing to keep him occupied while the miners picket and protest. When Billy fails in the boxing ring, he falls upon the adjoining ballet school of Mrs. Wilkinson (Julie Walters), where he discovers that his love for ballet dancing far outweighs his

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Innocence, an Australian film by director Paul Cox, unconventionally approaches the subject of love and sex over the age of sixty. The story follows two young lovers, Andreas and Claire, who grow up in Belgium, and go their separate ways. Forty years later, Andreas finds that his memories of Claire still haunt him, so he writes a letter asking her to meet with him again. Claire has been living in a loveless marriage for the last twenty years, while Andreas is a widowed, retired music instructor. Reunited by memory and curiosity, they rediscover love, and ponder the nature of life and death, spewing such provocatively cheesy one-liners such as "love becomes more real the closer it comes to death." But the seasoned, talented actors in this film (Julia Blake, Charles Tingwell) manage to pull off cheesy dia-

logue without a hitch.

The film shares many of the same themes as last year's best picture (a 1999 Toronto Film Festival favorite) *American Beauty*, as both movies suggest that love, lust and passion are requirements for a good life – regardless of age. But where *American Beauty* uses black comedy and wicked satire, *Innocence* prefers melodrama and excessively plodding dialogue.

There are some stirring moments that transcend Cox's heavy-handed approach, but there are also passages in the film that backfire. Love, memory, sex, separation and death are heavy subjects to depict on film, and Cox makes stodgy use of flashbacks, supported by cliché images of running water and skulls to depict his themes. But the cinematography is so beautiful that the audience can forgive such self-indulgence. Moms and dads may especially like this film because it is a decidedly mature love story. A definite contender for the Toronto International Film Festival's People's Choice Award.



prowess for fist-fighting. Concerned about being branded a 'puffie' by family and friends, Billy hides his secret until his family discovers that he wants to audition for the Royal Ballet. Eventually, Billy garners the support of his entire town, and follows his dream.

This was my favorite film of the Festival. Some people might consider this film overwrought and manipulative, but it's charming characters and honest dialogue won me over – as did talented

young actor Jamie Bell, who put forth an incredibly genuine, energetic performance in the lead role. The supporting cast gave focused and emotional performances as well. The subplot of the striking miners was somewhat mistreated – it should have been given either more screen time or less screen time to contrast it with the central plot of Billy's personal struggle. A poignant, emotionally wrought little gem of a film.

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MOVIE REVIEW

BY RICHIE MEHTA

When he last visited the film festival in 1997, Al Pacino presented his directorial debut, *Looking for Richard*. The brilliant Shakespeare study followed Pacino and his theatre posse – which included Kevin Spacey, Alec Baldwin, and Winona Ryder – as they discussed, acted, and debated Shakespeare's *Richard III*.

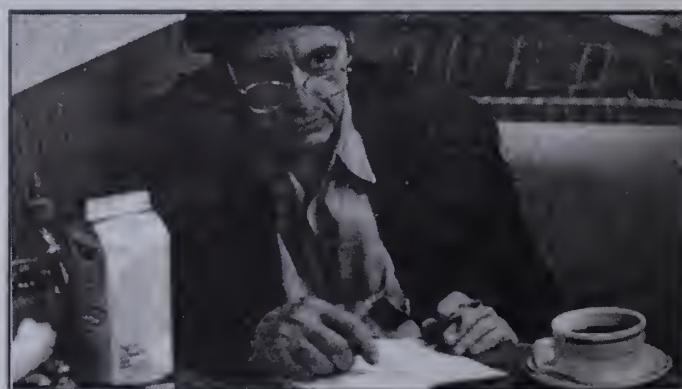
This year, Pacino returns to his theatrical roots with *Chinese Coffee*, an off-broadway play originally performed in the 1980s. Pacino and Jerry Orbach (*Law and Order*) play best friends in New York's Greenwich Village. Pacino plays a struggling author who gets fired from his doorman job. After wandering around the streets with \$1.50 in his pocket, he lands at his friends house. As the film unfolds through Pacino's theatre-conscious lens, we learn about their past relationships,

their intimate friendship, their shared experiences, and the ultimate collapse of trust and understanding.

With this film, Pacino once again shows his passion for the dramatic arts. Just like he does with all his films – most notably the play-turned films *Glen Garry Glenn Ross* and *Looking for Richard*, Pacino immerses himself into his roles so completely that he's one of the few Hollywood actors who's actual personality is a complete enigma.

As a director and actor, Pacino also brings out high calibre performances from his cast. Jerry Orbach's performance as a frustrated photographer matches Pacino, displaying how sorely Orbach is underrated in film roles.

The surprise with *Chinese Coffee* is its intimacy. Pacino could do any film he wants: he could do the Hollywood money-making machine, or the high-calibre oscar machine, but his passion projects show humbler desires. Acting coaches Strasberg and Meisner would be proud.



Al Pacino gazes furtively at his cup of Chinese Coffee. Milk, cream, or sugar?

TIFF continued: *Contender* for an Oscar, director Crowe becomes *Almost Famous*, Temple causes *Pandemonium*



sends him on a 1973 American tour with the fictional rock band, Stillwater, headed by lead singer Jeff Bebe (Jason Lee) and guitarist Russell Hammond (Billy Crudup). Cameron Crowe, like William, was a young rock critic for Rolling Stone magazine. He was also born and raised in Southern California.

This film does a terrific job of capturing the setting and atmosphere of the 1970s. Even if you didn't grow up in the early 70s, it accurately captures a complex portrait of life during that time period. As a result, *Almost Famous* envelopes you, making you forget yourself in a masterful suspension of reality. That's a mark of a truly great film. And even through Crowe's screenwriting and direction pushes the film past the limits of believability in the latter half of the film, his confidence still manages to evoke great performances from his actors, particularly from relative newcomers Kate Hudson (as legendary groupie Penny Lane) and Patrick Fugit. *Almost Famous* is almost a really great film.

MOVIE REVIEW

BY RICHIE MEHTA

The title may be misleading at first – not a proper title for a period-drama set in England – but *Pandemonium* is a period-piece for the modern age. A post-modern *Sense and Sensibility*. From the first shot of the film – a beautiful angle from inside a glass of water – to the last – a surprise you have to sit through the credits of the film to see, cinematographer John Lynch and director Julien Temple create an incredible visual journey. The film depicts the lives of English poets William Wordsworth (John Hannah) and Samuel Taylor Coleridge (Linus Roache – one of the most underrated actors in Britain) as they discover their innovative and liberating poetic style. Set amidst the political turmoil of post-revolutionary France and England, the two poets end up in a rural utopia isolated from the world. Coleridge finds poetic inspiration from this new life, in



William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge frolic in the countryside Wordsworth's presence (and with the help of a little opium). But the friendship proves detrimental, as Coleridge's opium addiction and Wordsworth's questionable loyalties begin to surface.

Sounds like a standard period

costume drama. But Temple infuses such a contemporary flare to the tale I was always unprepared for the next image on screen. By the end, *Pandemonium* itself became a ballad for Coleridge, not just a presentation of his life.

Mexican ambassadors set to visit Blackwood

BY NATALIE DOONAN

Look out for this Wednesday's opening of *c/o la Ciudad: working in Mexico City*, the Blackwood gallery's first-ever exhibition of contemporary art from Mexico. The word on the five-minute walk is that Mario Chacon, the Consul General of Mexico (Toronto), and Alberto Fierro, the cultural attaché of the Mexican Embassy (Ottawa) will attend the opening reception. The reception will also include a discussion by guest curator, Germaine Koh, a little bit of wine, and a whole lotta hooplah.

The artists featured in this show were all born in Mexico City, and brought together by their interest in the monumental presence of their home town.

Having been a centre of power ever since the Aztecs founded it in 1325 as Tenochtitlan, Mexico City has grown into a place of extremes of time and magnitude. It is a society that can seem irreconcilable to an outsider.

Still, as Germaine Koh notes in her introductory essay, the artists in this exhibition have consciously assumed the task of reckoning with this intense urban environment. "Imbued with a certain precariousness," she writes, "their work demonstrates a sense of care and concern for the incongruities of the city's long history and its difficult contemporary conditions."

The artists involved in the exhibition are motivated by the particular pressures of Mexico City: its congestion and violence, its volatile politics, and deep socio-economic inequities. Certainly, as Germaine Koh writes, "some work there seems infected by a quiet sense of survivalism," as the artists adhere to the "dual principle of making do and doing-it-yourself, employing strategies ranging from active defiance of authority to careful extraction of poetry from everyday things, and speaking in modes that are by turn blunt, theoretical and humorous."

UTM students and faculty are all invited to attend the show's opening on Wednesday, September 20, from 7:00 - 9:00 pm, in the Kaneff Centre's Blackwood Gallery. The show continues to October 9.

You can contact us at our email address: ecsu@hotmail.com

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Shared Habitat's *fLight* a feast for the senses

THEATRE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Artistic producer Bill James' breaks down the convention of the 'traditional' performance space by housing the Shared Habitat festival – a celebration of art, dance, and ecology – in an abandoned radiator factory. This post-industrial space is a haunted, political backdrop for an extensive collection of collaborative visual installations.

Gargantuan tarps and garbage bags segregated the different zones of artistic space. September 12-16, it housed the Japanese-Canadian co-production of *fLight* – a multimedia exploration of nature and spirituality through dance, art and image. The production featured the creative talents of Hideo Arai, Peter Chin, and Cylla von Tiedemann. The collaborative performance was conceived in the Japanese town of Yame, Kyushu. The artists examined native natural phenomenon such as smoking volcanoes and black-winged dragonfly gardens. Several Japanese theatres featured the production before it "flew" into Toronto for their North American premiere at the Shared Habitat festival.

The opening scene of the production featured a single dancer holding a piece of fabric in front of his body. He seductively teased the audience with a frontally projected shadow, as suggestions of movement whisper from behind the cloth in a distorted and intriguing manner.

The set design and lighting were the highlights of this production, as it's elegant simplicity drew attention to the intense style of choreography – it could be compared to a language that looks and sounds beautiful, with each movement bearing its own unknown mean-



photo/Cylla von Tiedemann

Collaborators Peter Chin, Hideo Arai and Cylla von Tiedemann display their stunning production, *fLight*, in an industrial site.

ings and definitions. Each little movement of the production was precisely planned, from the tiniest bend of the finger to the flutter of an eye, enhancing *fLight*'s pace, purpose and focus. The gestural quality of the choreography was reminiscent of the narrative approach taken by many types of ethnic national dance. The choreography and visuals, when observed together, suggest themes about the relationship between life and technology, and how the two might interlace on a more visceral, spiritual plane. It's an invigorating journey that lets the audience explore and ponder artistic questions with the same sense of experimentation and joy as *fLight*'s performers. Unfortunately, this unique approach

resulted in a few choreographed scenes that were too cryptic and repetitive to hold the audience's attention.

One of the largest problems with the production was with the audience seating. The makeshift fold-up chairs were reasonably well-spaced, but the producers of this production should consider renting or building a couple of raked seating areas to prop chairs on top of, so audience members don't have to violently bob their heads from side to side to see the performers properly. This is particularly essential for a production which relies so heavily on visual effects.

The best orchestrated moments of the production were the ones where the choreography and background sets fully interacted. One strong segment featured

a dancer swirling his finger in a pile of dirt, which was projected onto the screen behind him. Another backdrop consisted of one of the dancers completing a hand puppet narrative, projected larger-than-life onto the white backdrop.

The range of the stage choreography was incredibly controlled and limited, lending tension and energy to the production. This was a dense and constrained *fLight* – a polar opposite to the traditional conception of flight as a lofty, relaxing, and whimsical activity.

The composition and sound arrangement of this production relates perfectly to the stage setting and choreography: at times, it was echoed by stage action with understated beauty and gesture, while other passages were harsh and

grinding – a harmonic union of the organic and the artificial.

The final scene was intriguingly complex and layered, as the two dancers watched one another while standing in front of a projection of dragonflies sitting on leaves, which in turn were being observed by one of the dancers (also in the video loop). The video interlude of the dancers at a Japanese casino was incredibly whimsical comic relief for the weighty production.

When art is placed within such a context, it becomes imbued with a sense of power. Margaret Chen's "Cross-Section of Labyrinth" is made even more organic by placing it within such a cemented, unnatural environment. The large, site-specific piece, is made from natural materials such as bark and shell, which are then glued to discarded wood blocks. Placed in four spirally, layered leafy patterns, they radiate like flower blooms, from a central, round, rippling bowl-like bud that looks like crinkled leather. Its twists, turns and multiple facets directly resemble the labyrinth suggested in the piece's title.

Productions like this successfully showcase multidisciplinary approaches to a singular theme, and act as a tribute to the success of collaboration. Here's hoping that Toronto houses more large-scale, international, artistic co-productions in the future.

Shared Habitat festival of art and the environment runs from September 12 to October 15 at 376 Dufferin Street, south of Queen. Tickets are \$15. Enter through the courtyard at the south end of the building. Upcoming performances include Senses (September 19-23, 26-30), Dendrite (October 3-7), Solea (October 3-7), and Wind (October 10-14). Tickets can be purchased at the door, or by phone at 416-973-4000.

Dirtbags Wheatus play Lee's Palace

CONCERT REVIEW

BY JILL KITCHENER

Whoever said that five dollars won't get you far nowadays was wrong. My five loonies got me into an amazing Wheatus and Zebrahead gig at Toronto's Lee's Palace this last Friday. The intimate downtown show marked the 18th stop on the bands' tour itinerary.

Shame on you if you missed out, because both bands are fleeing Canada to continue touring in their American home land.

Wheatus' fan-base has grown remarkably in the past month due to the release of their catchy grunge-pop single "Teenage Dirtbag," featured in the Amy Heckerling movie, *Loser*, released earlier this summer. Their first single – self-written, produced and engineered by Wheatus – is quickly gaining

recognition on music charts in both Canada and the US. Contrary to the notion that "Teenage Dirtbag" is sung by a group of teenage girls, the band consists of four musically mature guys, who are well on their way to becoming a huge success.

The crowd at Lee's came alive as Wheatus delivered a continuous stream of energized alternative rock tunes, such as "Truffles" and "A Little Respect." It was impossible to decipher which of the two bands the crowd came out to see. The opening act, Zebrahead, does not have a teen anthem appearing in a hit movie, nor have any of their videos been granted heavy rotation on Much Music. Despite the lack of media attention, Zebrahead know how to put on a show. After performing only two songs, the fans happily accepted an invitation to interact with the band. A T-shirt was awarded to a girl who was brave enough to give her brother a lap dance on stage. This nearly incestuous situation was completely unexpected, but too entertaining for anyone to dismiss as disgusting or morally wrong. Requests from the audience were honored by the band members, as they proceeded to cover both Weezer's "In The Garage" and the Spice Girls "Wannabe." Of course, the band had to speed up the popular Spice Girls single to the pace of ska music – there could be no other way for a Green Day influenced, punk band to justify performing "Wannabe."

Wheatus' self-titled debut album, along with Zebrahead's *Playmate Of The Year* are in stores now. I would definitely recommend fans of alternative, rock, ska, or punk music fans to check these albums out.

Casual view on 54-40, Eve 6 overuses double negatives

CD REVIEWS

BY ADAM GILES

54-40

Casual Viewin'
Sony (Columbia)



54-40 is back with their eight-hundredth album – or at least, what seems like their eight-hundredth album – *Casual Viewin'*. These guys are so productive. It seems like Brad, Neil, Rick, and Matt release an album every year, and somehow manage to belt out three or four awesome songs each time. The wrinkles may accumulate on their faces as the years go by, but they can still play.

"Say my Name" – not a Destiny's Child cover – is the second best song on *Casual Viewin'* aside from the album's title track. Brad Merritt's bass moves gracefully through the song's melodies, as Rick Comparelli's guitar strums in unison with Neil Osborne's vocals. "Castles" is also a nice song. The 14 songs of *Casual Viewin'* have a similar atmospheric sound that I can't explain, but it's really good shit.

Eve 6
Horrorscope
BMG



"I promise not to try not to fuck with your mind" – the most memorable line on Eve 6's new album *Horrorscope* from "Promise." What a great line: it fits in perfectly with the groovy rhythm of the song. Just one thing: watch the double negatives, guys. It took me a while to figure out whether Eve 6 was or wasn't trying to fuck with my mind.

The band's unique sound, established by Max Collins' vocals, comes through on *Horrorscope* just as well it did on their debut album. Max always sounds like he's out of breath as he sings, but it works.

One common sound in Eve 6's songs is the over-pronunciation and emphasis on rhymes and alliteration. Sometimes, it seems like Max tries too hard to use sound repetition in his lyrics. The sound repetition in "Bang," "Amphetamines," and "Enemy" are all really contrived.

These guys sound great live, though – they played an awesome set at Summersault 2000.

Ultimately, the new album is okay. It's not especially ear grabbing, but it's better than listening to N'SYNC.

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SPORTS

Participation drop-off a serious threat to intramural sports

High tuition costs
among reasons for
low participation rate

BY SACHIN BHANDARI

As the 2000-2001 season of intramural sports nears, a crisis looms if last year is any indication.

Last year, intramurals at UTM saw poor participation in many sports, including indoor soccer, basketball, coed softball, and men's flag football. The lack of players meant that these sports had an insufficient numbers of teams to form more than one division. Ian Hazlewood, the Men's Intramural Representative for UTM's Athletic Council, said that in intramural sports there are two types of teams: those that are competitive and play to win, and those that are recreational and play for fun. Before certain games even began, it was evident that some teams were going to get thrashed. In soccer, for instance, teams winning by 15 goals happened frequently. With two divisions, the competitive teams could be put in one division and the recreational teams in another. With only seven teams, only one division can be supported.

There could be many causes to the poor participation. The tuition costs have increased significantly over the years, people aren't as active as they used to be and there are extra payments

teams must make to participate. Also, there was an absence of an athletic student council last year and the intramural champion t-shirt designs remained the same from the previous year. It seemed half of those few people who did participate already had the same intramural champion t-shirts.

The participation problem is even more serious considering that those students who participated were in their upper years-some of them having graduated. There were few first-year students participating in intramural sports. This poses a serious problem for all intramural leagues.

Participation was great two years ago. Jack Krist, Acting Director of UTM's Centre for Physical Education, commented on the issue, "I think the lack of participation is due to the changing of the times. The tuition costs are higher than they used to be. Also, gym is not mandatory in high school after grade 9 anymore."

"The lack of participation is due to the changing of the times."
-Jack Krist

The increase in tuition costs means many students have to work part-time during the school year to pay for their studies. This takes time away from students participating in sports.

Krist also noted that extra fees are needed to offset the costs to operate the leagues. The fees are needed to pay for the referees and the new uniforms that the gym facility is getting this year. Krist cited that while this fee has increased over the past few years, many universities do charge a lot more for students to participate in intramural sports. Some schools charge as much as \$75-200, such as the University of Western Ontario. Ian Hazlewood added that the extra fees make teams more committed to show up, since defaulting results in the loss of more money.

Hazlewood stated that the absence of

a student council last year may have something to do with the participation drop-off since there was no council to

up for recreational gym time is also up.

He also cited that the only other campus with an intramural program is

pate in intramural sports are graduating this year. This poses a serious problem for women's intramural sports in the



It is hoped that participation in intramural sports increases for the 2000-2001 season, especially for men's indoor soccer. Other sports that suffered included co-ed baseball and men's flag football.

keep track of the league commissioners who are responsible for advertising and promoting their sports. He said that most advertising is in the basement of UTM's South Building and most students don't see these ads.

Krist did note that while the numbers show intramural sports participation is down, interfaculty participation is on the rise. He also stated that even though a lot of intramural participants may not be returning, this is not the case with interfaculty sports. For instance, he said 9 of the 11 players who won the Division 1 women's basketball championship were freshmen and that at least 7 players will be returning this year. As a whole, the UTM women won the Marie Parkes Award and the Women's Intramural Sports Competition Award last year. The Marie Parkes award goes to the U of T campus or faculty that has the most female participants in intramural sports. The Women's Intramural Sports Competition Award goes to the campus with the highest representation among women in every league at U of T. The number of students who show

Scarborough and they actually have a lower participation rate than UTM. There will be new designs on the champion t-shirts next year and intramural games should start on time this year, in early October, instead of late October, even with the delay in the gym renovations.

While Krist pointed out some positive factors, there is still a problem for UTM, especially in women's intramural sports according to Chandra Gilbert, Women's Intramural Sports Representative. Women's intramural ball hockey has been moved from the second semester to the first semester this year, Gilbert says participation may drop from last year due to this change. The games are played at 8:00 in the mornings and this year these games will coincide with morning touch football and soccer practises. Gilbert said most women participate in both ball hockey and either of the interfaculty sports. Many will choose interfaculty soccer or touch football over intramural ball hockey. She also stated that as with the men, most of the women who partici-

years to come.

Krist would like to see participation at where it was in the early '90's when there were 16 men's indoor soccer teams, 27 men's ball hockey team's, 10 men's basketball teams, and 7 coed baseball teams.

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@7-8pm Gym

Women's Volleyball
@6-7pm Gym

Men's Basketball @8-9pm Gym

Men's Volleyball @7-8pm Gym

Sept. 18
Women's Touch Football @5-6pm South Field

Women's Field Hockey @7:45-8:45pm North Field

Women's Soccer @6-7pm South Field

Men's Rugby @7-8pm North Field

Men's Soccer @5-6pm North Field

Men's Touch Football @6-7 South Field

Coed Ultimate Frisbee @4-5 North Field

Sept. 21
Women's Ice Hockey @7-8am Erin Mills Twin Arena

Sept. 24
Men's Ice Hockey @10:30-11:30pm Erin Mills Twin Arena



ATTENTION ALL FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES



The students' administrative council is holding it's 2000 fall By-Elections

GET INVOLVED AT U OF T, RUN FOR A POSITION ON SAC!

1st Nomination Period

Start:
Friday, Sept. 15 • 9:00am
Finish:
Thursday, Sept. 21 • 5:00pm

2nd Nomination Period

Start:
Friday, Sept. 22 • 9:00am
Finish:
Monday, Sept. 25 • 5:00pm

Campaigning Period

Start:
Wed, Sept. 27 • 12:01am
Finish:
Tuesday, Oct 3 • 11:59pm

Running for a seat on the Board of directors?

Come to the SAC office and pick up your nomination forms. The SAC office is located at 3359 Mississauga Rd in the Student Centre. For more info call 978-4911 or visit www.sac.utoronto.ca

Why have two nomination periods?

In the SAC elections, there is a second nomination period which opens in order to fill the vacancies left from the first nomination period. These vacancies can be filled by a full-time undergrad from another constituency.

Bring your identification

Full-time undergraduates may vote by presenting any one of (a) a TCard (formerly Smart Card) with a 2000-2001 TCard wallet (TCards alone will be accepted), or (b) a letter from the student's registrar confirming your status as a full-time student.

Where to vote

Polls will be held at the constituencies requiring an election and in the lobby of the Sidney Smith Building on Thursday, October 5th between 11am and 6pm.

Vacant Seats on the 2000/2001 SAC Board of Directors

College or Faculty	# of seats
Scarborough	2
Architecture	1
OISE/UT	1
Nursing	1
Medicine	1
Music	1
TYP	1
Law	1
Innis	1

SAC Election Day - Wed, Oct 4th • 11am to 6pm

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UTM Rowing 2000 takes over the Meeting Place

UTM's only varsity team recruits for upcoming rowing season

BY YASIN OZTURK

It's 5:30 in the morning and you just want to press the snooze button again and again and again. However, you stand up still a little groggy from pub night, put on something or other, only sure of one article of clothing that you're wearing; the sex suit. You get to the club and run 4k, and/or do a tank session, and/or do an erg session, and/or row in a boat. Just as you begin to leave the club you realize your eyes are only now just opening. Wake up to UTM Rowing.

The novice and varsity rowing seasons have returned with plenty of prospects. On September 14th, the returning varsity

rowing hopefuls held their annual exhibit for UTM rowing recruitment in the Meeting Place. The varsity roster is comprised of an energetic and enthusiastic group of students, diverse in their levels and divisions of study.

Manning the recruitment booth for the day, from the lightweight men's category, was Denis "J.J." Caza, 1999/00 OUA lightweight men's single silver medalist, and Kevin "the Stoner" Spence, the high endurance tawweight/lightweight/coxswain of "Holoho" ball hockey fame. The two veterans were always found working the floor for "fresh talent". Returning novice men Thomas Krebs, Scott Patterson, and Craig Allen hope to compliment the likes of "Double J" and "The Stoner" on the men's varsity squad and learn from them.

On the more finesse side of rowing comes the varsity women's lineup. The program is spearheaded by returning novice and Master's Student, Beth Major, who also competed in a lightweight double at the Royal Canadian



Yasin Ozturk rows in the Meeting Place as he recruits for the 2000-2001 UTM rowing team. Rowing is UTM's only varsity sport. Many members of the team are returning, but Yasin's status remains uncertain.

Henley Regatta over the summer for the Don Rowing Club of Mississauga. Alongside Beth, are novice talents Erin Gawley and Joanna Martens. Gawley was a tower of power for the women's novice crew in '99 while Martens rowed in the same strong boat, leading in bow with unmatched technique.

Notable on the sidelines is heavy-weight men's varsity athlete Yasin Ozturk, who is in the midst of rehabilitation training. Also in the background of the program is former UTM Rower

Marie-Eve Perreault, whose years of excellence in rowing at UTM will prove to be an invaluable asset to the assistant coaching role she will take on this season.

Finally, in the shadows of the program sits the man who pulls the strings behind the curtains of UTM Rowing, Andrew Bellerby. Bellerby, a former athlete who graduated from UTM in 1995 and won the Lightweight Singles title at the Royal Canadian Henly in 1993, is a longtime supporter of UTM Rowing and will continue supporting the program this season.

Bellerby has contributed to the program for years, first as a rower, then as a coach, and even as former Program Coordinator of the Centre for Physical Education. His dedication to rowing is the kind of dedication that UTM rowers feed off of for motivation. There is no doubt that those who really like to row, both the returning varsity and the incoming crop of novices alike, will succeed with Bellerby at the helm. Good luck this season UTM Rowing.

Blue Jays and BJ Birdie take a dive

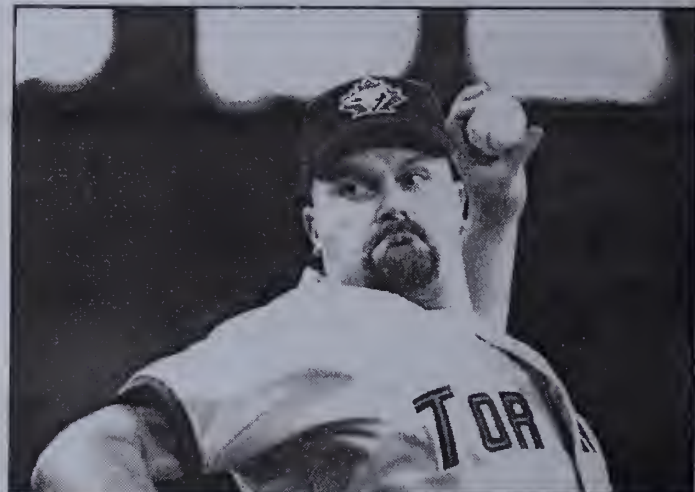
The usual late season collapse ruins post-season plans for the Jays

BY MATEO PRINCE

The sacking of BJ Birdie (everyone's favorite mascot) before the 2000 Major League Baseball season was perhaps an unceremonious way for the Blue Jays to begin their quest towards the World Series. It's not BJ's fault the Jays haven't been to the post-season since 1993, when they won the World Series, or that attendance at Blue Jay games is starting to look like attendance at Argos games. This year's Blue Jays are desperately trying to stay afloat in the wild-card race in what can be categorized as another up-and-down year for Toronto sports fans.

The season began on a promising note for the Jays. The addition of Raul Mondesi, in particular, strengthened what was already considered a strong club.

But the big bats of Carlos Delgado and Tony Batista once



David Wells fans were talking Cy Young in the first half of the season, but are now talking collapse as the regular season draws to a close.

again bailed out an occasionally spectacular, but often horrifying, pitching staff. With the exception of David Wells and Frank Castillo the Jays had a disappointing season from their starting rotation. Trips to the bullpen for Kelvin Escobar, Roy Halladay, and Chris Carpenter became routine; but proved no remedy for whatever ailed them.

Miraculously, at the All-Star break, the Jays were sitting comfortably atop the AL East. They were in prime position to make it into the post-season if they just continued to play consistent baseball. However, in typical Toronto Blue Jay fashion, expectations translated into disappointment. A team relying on its ace was let down as Wells posted a sub-par effort in the second half of the season with a 5-5 record. Both Mondesi and Castillo have been forced onto the DL, which crippled the team down the stretch. Even the booming bats of Delgado and Batista have been silenced in recent weeks, leaving the Jays on the losing side of most close contests.

Perhaps even more disconcerting is the fact that the Jays lack any sense of emotion and urgency.

What separates Boston, Toronto, and the New York Yankees? Quite simply that both the Red Sox and the Yankees elevate their game at this time of year while the Jays seem almost content to just stick with the pack, rather than making a strong move to assert themselves. At this point in the season, The Jays need timely hits, runs, and solid pitching every night. A lack of consistency frustrates fans and players alike. It's knowing that the team has the skill and tools to go the distance, but being uncertain as to whether they possess the will.

With a suffering sense of confidence, the Jays could have used the inspirational leadership of a BJ Birdie. Sitting 3 games behind in the wildcard with the streaking Indians, Athletics, and Red Sox ahead of them, the Jays desperately need to develop their confidence, find an identity, and play all around quality baseball. While the Jays may still be in the running, the team at this point is incapable of elevating their game and will therefore be forced to spend another off-season trying to determine what went wrong. Maybe it was when they cut loose the most consistent member of the club... BJ Birdie.



Carlos Delgado is having an MVP type season, but the Jays pitching failed the team during the stretch drive toward the playoffs.

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